

6 August 2013

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Dear Kashka

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 10 July 2013 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) about fuel exercise duty refunds. Your questions and my responses follow.

1. *How many staff does NZTA currently hire to oversee the work on Fuel Excise Duty Refunds. What are their roles?*

There are currently two employees directly employed to process fuel excise refunds. Their roles are to process claims, answer queries and issue refunds of approved claims.

2. *In the year 2012, how many Fuel Excise Duty Refunds were claimed? What was value of the total refunds processed?*

There were 25,418 claims accepted in 2012 valued at \$43m.

3. *How many Fuel Excise Duty Refunds have been applied for in 2013?*

We do not keep records on those claims that are not accepted. This part of your request is therefore refused under section 18(g) of the OIA as the information is not held.

4. *How many Fuel Excise Duty Refunds have been approved and processed in 2013? What was value of the total refunds processed?*

Please see the answer to question 5 below.

5. *How many Fuel Excise Duty Refunds were processed and returned to claimants, and what was their value, in each of the month this year? Can I get a break down for January, February, March, April, May, June and what has been processed so far in July (to the date of the response from this OIA)?*

Claims are on a quarterly basis so we do not keep monthly data. This part of your request is therefore refused under section 18(g) of the OIA.

There were 4230 claims accepted and paid in the period 1 January 2013 to 31 March 2013 valued at \$9m. Claims are still coming in and being processed for the April-June 2013 quarter. As at 1 August, we have processed 1708 claims at a value of \$4.3m. We have approximately 1250 claims at an average of \$500 per claim awaiting processing.

6. *What is the average waiting time between making a claim and receiving a refund?*

The average for the year ended 30 June 2013 was 12.74 days.

7. *Do you have figures of what could currently be claimed under the refund?*

On 23 July 2013 you clarified this question: *If all eligible claimants were to put in a refund application for what can currently be claimed, how much would that equate to in total dollar figures? Basically, how much money is owed to Kiwis under this scheme?*

To answer this question the NZ Transport Agency would need to know the total amount of petrol used off road for commercial purposes in New Zealand and we don't hold this data. This part of your request is therefore refused under section 18(g) of the OIA.

8. *Do you have a percentage of how many eligible claimants actually apply and receive refunds?*

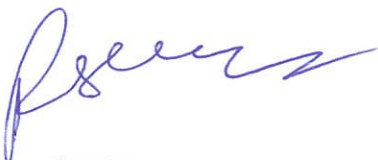
The Transport Agency does not hold this information. This part of your request is therefore refused under section 18(g) of the OIA.

Under section 28(3) of the OIA, you have the right to apply to an Ombudsman for an investigation and review of the decision to decline parts of your request. The address is:

Office of the Ombudsmen
PO Box 10152
Wellington

If you would like to discuss this reply with the Transport Agency, please contact Fiona Buckner, Manager Crown Revenue, by email to fiona.buckner@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on (06) 953 7022.

Yours sincerely



Paul Helm
Chief Financial Officer
For Chief Executive